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PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**RECEIVED**

In re Application of: )  
AKITOSHI YAMADA, et al. )  
Application No.: 09/993,641 )  
Filed: November 27, 2001 )  
For: IMAGE PROCESSING )  
APPARATUS AND IMAGE )  
PROCESSING METHOD ) July 11, 2002

JUL 18 2002

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 4,313,124  
U.S. Patent No. 4,345,262  
U.S. Patent No. 4,459,600  
U.S. Patent No. 4,463,359  
U.S. Patent No. 4,558,333  
U.S. Patent No. 4,723,129  
U.S. Patent No. 4,740,796  
U.S. Patent No. 5,289,293  
U.S. Patent No. 5,351,137  
U.S. Patent No. 5,949,965  
U.S. Patent No. 5,973,803  
Japan 54-56847  
Japan 60-71260

Japan 11-10918  
Japan 8-279920  
Japan 59-123670  
Japan 59-138461  
Japan 9-139841

R. W. Floyd, et al., "An Adaptive Algorithm for Spatial Greyscale",  
Proceedings Of The Society For Information Display, Vol. 17, No. 2,  
Second Quarter 1976, pp. 75-77.

English language abstracts for each of the foregoing Japanese documents have been located and are enclosed for the Examiner's consideration. In addition, it is noted that U.S. Patent 5,949,965 is an English language counterpart of Japan 11-10918 and U.S. Patent 5,973,803 is the English language counterpart of Japan 8-279920 and each of the corresponding U.S. patents have also been cited herein. Further, it is noted that each of the foregoing Japanese documents are discussed in the specification of the subject application and may be deemed pertinent for the reasons given therein. In view of the forgoing, the concise explanation of relevance for the non-English language documents is believed to be satisfied by one of the English language abstract (MPEP § 609), the U.S. counterparts, and/or the explanation provided in the specification.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

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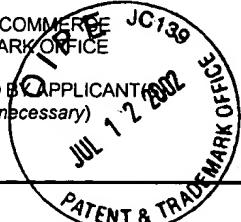
Respectfully submitted,

Technology Center 2600

  
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ATTY DOCKET NO.  
**00862.022447.**

APPLICATION NO.

**09/993,641**

APPLICANT

**AKITOSHI YAMADA, et al.**

FILING DATE

**November 27, 2001**

GROUP

**2621**

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	RECEIVED JUL 18 2002 Technology Center 2600
	<b>4,313,124</b>	<b>01/26/82</b>	<b>Hara</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>140 R</b>		
	<b>4,345,262</b>	<b>08/17/82</b>	<b>Shirato et al.</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>140 R</b>		
	<b>4,459,600</b>	<b>07/10/84</b>	<b>Sato et al.</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>140 R</b>		
	<b>4,463,359</b>	<b>07/31/84</b>	<b>Ayata et al.</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>140 R</b>		
	<b>4,558,333</b>	<b>12/10/85</b>	<b>Sugitami et al.</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>140 R</b>		
	<b>4,723,129</b>	<b>02/02/98</b>	<b>Endo et al.</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>1.1</b>		
	<b>4,740,796</b>	<b>04/26/88</b>	<b>Endo et al.</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>1.1</b>		
	<b>5,289,293</b>	<b>02/22/94</b>	<b>Kato et al.</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>457</b>		
	<b>5,351,137</b>	<b>09/27/94</b>	<b>Kato et al.</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>457</b>		
	<b>5,949,965</b>	<b>09/07/99</b>	<b>Gondek</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>109</b>		
	<b>5,973,803</b>	<b>10/26/99</b>	<b>Cheung et al.</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>534</b>		

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
	<b>54-56847</b>	<b>05/08/79</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>Abstract</b>
	<b>60-71260</b>	<b>04/23/85</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>Abstract</b>
	<b>11-10918</b>	<b>01/19/99</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>Abstract</b>
	<b>8-279920</b>	<b>10/22/96</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>Abstract</b>
	<b>59-123670</b>	<b>07/17/84</b>	<b>Japan</b>			<b>Abstract</b>

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

**R.W. Floyd, et al., "An Adaptive Algorithm for Spatial Greyscale", Proceedings Of The Society For Information Display, Vol. 17, No. 2, Second Quarter 1976, pp. 75-77.**

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 2

*\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy in next communication to applicant.*